



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Memorandum

All VDOT Contractors

From: Frank Gee, Chief Engineer *Frank*
Jeff Southard, Assistant Commissioner *Jeff*

Date: January 1, 2002

VDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Contractor Certification (VDOT ESC Contractor Certification) Program

On behalf of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), we would like to thank you for your support and partnership in the tremendous environmental successes achieved over the past 3 years. Our commitment to environmental excellence is exemplified through VDOT environmental monitor reports that show increases in project compliance levels from 30% in 1999 to 93% in 2001. Likewise, VDOT's Construction Quality Improvement Program (CQIP) noted significant environmental compliance rating increases from 88.0% in fiscal year 1998/1999 to 93.4% in fiscal year 2000/2001.

We believe the primary reason for these environmental successes is due to our continuing partnership with you and our joint commitment to environmental compliance and stewardship. From April 1999 through June 2001, VDOT contractors obtained over 5,500 individual certifications through cooperative erosion and sediment control training initiatives sponsored by VDOT and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Once this vital training was completed, contractor forces embraced the information presented and immediately began to raise the performance levels of environmental specifications on VDOT project sites.

While we are excited about these successes, we must ensure continuous improvements in environmental compliance and stewardship. In order to continue our environmental successes, we are committed to providing contractors with consistently improved and enhanced training opportunities as a service to both the contractor and VDOT. We believe that such training services will provide a tremendous contribution in continuing to fulfill our commitments to environmental stewardship and excellence.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce the development of a new, VDOT Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Contractor Certification Program. The VDOT ESC Contractor Certification Program will provide an integral service by presenting an 8-hour enhanced training program and a certification examination which will cover (1) erosion and sediment control and stormwater laws, regulations and principles; (2) related VDOT specifications and standards; and (3) VDOT contract processes as they relate to road building/linear development. Specific guidance for VDOT ESC Contractor Certification training providers, instructors, and participants will be made available by March 1, 2002. This guidance will be available via VDOT's website: www.VirginiaDOT.org.

Based on the development of the VDOT Contractor Certification, the requirement in VDOT's Road and Bridge Specification 107.14(a) regarding personnel who must be certified by DCR in erosion and sediment control is currently under revision. Please note, VDOT contractors, VDOT employees, and Land Use Permittees who work within the VDOT right-of-way are **NOT** required to obtain DCR's Responsible Land Disturber (RLD) Certification; however, these individuals **will be required to obtain a VDOT Contractor Certification** in order to proceed with land disturbing activities. The revision to 107.14(a) will reflect the requirement of a VDOT Contractor Certification.

If you perform work on projects (land disturbing activities) outside of the VDOT right-of-way, contact the local government of the jurisdiction in which your project lies to ask what certification requirements, if any, pertain to your activities.